ough the public distribution system the country;

(b) if so, when and the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI D. L. BAITHA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The Central Government has undertaken the responsibility for the supply of seven essential commodities, viz., wheat, rice, levy sugar, imported edible oils, kerosene oil, soft coke and controlled cloth to the States/U.Ts. for distribution through the net-work of the Public Distribution System. The States/U.Ts. are, however, free to include any other commodity including pulses under the Public Distribution System, which they consider essential, which they can procure and distribute. Some of the States like Punjab, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Tamil Nadu and West Bengal are already distributing pulses through the net work of fair price shops.

Development of land for Shantivan, Shakti-Sthal, Vijay Ghat and Kisan Ghat

1696. SHRI LAL K. ADVANI:
SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR:

Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) what are the details of the amounts sanctioned and spent, alongwith the estimates of future expenditure, for land development for Shantivan, Shakti-Sthal, Vijay Ghat and Kisan Ghat, separately, along the Jamuna bank in Delhi;

(b) what amount was spent between September, 1987 and at the end of February, 1988; and

(c) what are the outlines and main features of the work done/to be done in each case?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) Shantivan and Vijay Ghat were established and developed long ago. No new expenditure has been sanctioned for them during the last 10 years. However, the normal maintenance expenditure is incurred every year for the up-keep of the Samadhis from the CPWD grants for general maintenance. The Vijay Ghat Samadhi area needs an improvement in its surroundings. An assessmet of the new development to be done at Vijay Ghat area has been made. Due to the general economy guidelines under drought, it has been decided to undertake this work next year.

Shakti-Sthal, in memory of Smt. Indira Gandhi, is a new Samadhi area which has been developed. So far a sanction for Rs. 83.58 lakhs has been issued for this development. The total estimated expenditure towards development of Shakti-Sthal is around Rs. 3.00 crores. Its sanction is under process No decision has been taken to set up a 'Kisan Ghat' Samadhi.

(b) An amount of Rs. 51.01 lakhs was spent on the development of Shakti-Sthal during this period. In addition, an amount of Rs. 20.52 lakhs was spent on the construction of a boundary wall on the backside of Raighat Shantivana, Shakti-Sthal and Vijay Ghat.

(c) The main features of the works at Shakti-Sthal are landscaping, construction of Kiosks, construction of lake, provision of toilet facilities, parking space and path ways and security lights, and horticulture works like planting of trees and development of lawns.

Farmers and landless labourers estimated to go below poverty line

1697. SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN:
SHRI SHANKER SINH VAGHELA:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to refer to reply to Un-

starred Question 1392 given in the Rajya Sabha on 20th November, 1987 and state:

(a) the outcome of the various remedial steps taken so far to check the impact of drought and floods on landless labourers and farmers; and

(b) the percentage of small farmers and landless labourers still estimated to go below poverty line?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHYAM LAL YADAV): (a) and (b) Estimation of percentages of small farmers and landless labourers likely to go below the poverty line on account of drought and floods has not been made; it is difficult to make such an estimation because of the short term effects of drought and floods.

As a result of the relief measures taken by Central and State Governments, 61.38 lakh persons, mostly belonging to landless labourers and farmers, have been provided employment; 26.86 lakh persons belonging to the families of these groups are being provided supplementary nutrition; and 17.28 lakh heads of cattle belonging to these groups are taken care of in cattle camps.

Increase in the price of Sugarcane

1698. SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE:
SHRI KAILASH PATI MISHRA:

Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) how much extra amount is estimated to go to the farmers as a result of increase in the minimum price of sugarcane, a recent hike in sugar prices and also reduction of the quota of levy sugar to 50 per cent; and

(b) how much extra amount is estimated to go to the sugar factory sector?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CI SUPPLIES (SHRI D. L. BAITHA (a) and (b) The recent increase in the levy sugar price by 25 paise per kilogram was due to increase in the Statutory minimum Price of Sugarcane for 1987-88 from Rs. 17.00 to Rs. 18.50 per quintal linked to 8.5 per cent recovery and higher manufacturing cost of sugar determined for 1987-88 based on cost schedules and other parameters recommended by the Expert Body, namely, the Bureau of Industrial Costs and Prices (BICP).

As usual, sugar factories in most of the sugar producing States are paying to the farmers sugarcane price higher than the Statutory Minimum, based on the prices advised by the respective State Governments. The cane price being paid during the current season is, on an average, higher by Rs. 2/- per quintal as compared to last year. In some of the States, e.g., Maharashtra and Gujarat, the farmers are paid in the beginning an advance price pending settlement of final price at the end of the season. In view of this position, the extra amount likely to be realised by the farmers and the sugar factories this year cannot be quantified.

Report of the Committee for reduction in expenditure in D.D.A.

1699. SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE:
SHRI KAILASH PATI MISHRA:

Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to refer to answer to Unstarred Question 2894 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 4th December, 1987 and state:

(a) whether the sub-committee appointed by the DDA to suggest ways and means to reduce heavy expenditure on its establishment has since submitted its report; if so, whether Government have examined the report: